JANUARY 1997
VOLUME 13 NO.1

SACWN

SACRAMENTO AREA CAREER WOMEN'S NETWORK INC.

JANUARY EVENT: A SACWN SALON

BIRDING IN MEXICO

Removed from the modern world, accessible only by boat, Yelapa is a birder's paradise. One hour south of Puerto Vallarta, it has a myriad of Pacific Slope Mexican birds, North American and Texas migrants during the spring birding season.

There you can watch Parrots, Motmots, Trogons and other Mexican birds from dawn to dusk. You can bird at the lagoons for Boat-Billed Herons and Roseate Spoonbills; walk up-river for Military Macaws or through the hills for Magpie Jays. Even Blue-footed Boobies and other sea birds are an easy jaunt to the Tres Marietta Islands.

Join us at the next SACWN Salon to view slides from Yelapa and share your birding, nature and tropical experiences. SACWNite Dell Richards, with 25 years of birding experience will lead the discussion. Dell is a crane docent for the California State Department of Fish and Game and has been seriously birding Mexico for the past three years.

Date: Friday, January 19, 1997
Place: SACWN Office
3031 F Street, Suite 201
Sacramento
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Tickets: $ 5 In Advance
$10 At the Door

See ticket order form on inside back cover.
An event for women over 21 only.

From the Steering Committee

In the spirit of new beginnings, a new year and new year resolutions, SACWN is preparing to present a new calendar of events. Beginning with a Salon in January, SACWNite Dell Richards will show her slides of birding in Mexico. If you like the out-of-doors, fanciful birds or just the companionship of interesting women, join us at the SACWN office for the January Salon.

We have a sweetheart of a comedian to introduce you to in February. Appearing for the first time in Sacramento, Suzanne Westenhoefer will appear at the Crest Theater, produced by SACWN. While this event will offer a reduced ticket price for SACWN members, it will also be open to the entire community, so invite all your friends.

SACWN will move to a quarterly event schedule in the coming year with appearances by two major performers, the Sacramento Women's Gathering in July and the Snow White Ball in December. In the other months, based on member response, the SACWN Salons will feature more intimate gatherings around a topic of interest.

The 1996 Snow White Ball is now history, the 20th anniversary of the founding of the event by Linda Birner and friends. To celebrate, Linda was presented with a bouquet of 20 long stemmed red roses at the ball. This year's event was attended by 172 women from all around the Sacramento area. We even had two women new to Sacramento from Reading, Pennsylvania (which happens to be the editor's home town. They even know my brother!).

An apology and explanation is in order to those of you who attended the ball. We ran out of food, much too early in the evening. As you may know, when you contract with a caterer, you need to provide the caterer with a guaranteed count several days before the event. The contract on the Lincoln Plaza requires that the "in-house" caterer be used for all events (we have no choice at that facility just as one would have no choice at a hotel or similar location.) The guarantee was due by the Monday before the event. The cutoff date for the lower ticket price was set for Monday so that hopefully the majority of the tickets would be bought by that date. But that didn't happen this year. Monday came and 82 tickets were sold. Food for 100 was ordered. Then the mail brought a slew of ticket requests. By Wednesday, there were 120 tickets sold so the food order was upped to 125 and we were told that that was the final count. But ticket orders kept coming in. We went to the Ball with 154 pre-sold tickets and another 18 tickets were sold at the door. In addition, people were expecting more substantial food and it disappeared quickly. We do apologize. We know many of you were disappointed. Clearly we have some bugs to work out with the presentation of the ball. We will learn from this year's experience.

SACWN ADVERTISING RATES

Type	Member	Non-Mem
Business Card 3 1/4 x 1 3/4	$25	$37
Two-column ad 4 1/2 x 2 3/4	$40	$60
Quarter page 3 1/2 x 4 1/2	$50	$75
Half page 7 1/8 x 4 1/2 or 3 1/2 x 9 1/2	$90	$135
Full page 7 1/2 x 9 1/2	$160	$240
Classified ads (per word)	.40	.60
Discounts (prepaid) 1 year	20%	
Discounts (prepaid) 1/2 year	10%	

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SACWN STEERING COMMITTEE

Rosemary Metrailer, Corporate Coordinator
(916) 447-7255
Jane Irwin, Finance Coordinator
(916) 424-3153

Sandra Virago
Executive Director
SACWN, Inc.
3031 F Street, Suite 201
Sacramento, CA 95816
(916) 451-8034
FAX: (916) 446-7189
Assistant Editor: Jeanine M.

SACWN, Inc. newsletter is published monthly, ten times a year. No portion of this newsletter may be reproduced without written permission from **SACWN, Inc.** Letters to the Editor, articles and community announcements are welcome. Materials submitted may be edited and shortened based on available space. Deadline for submission of material is the third Friday of the month before publication. For more information, contact Sandy Virago at 451-8034.

Special Interest Groups - January 1997

Special Interest Groups, fondly called SIGs, provide a way for our subscribers to meet in a more personal setting and get to know each other while exploring a common interest.

SINGLE CONNECTION

On **January 11**, join us for movies, coffee and conversation. Call **Ann at 927-6038** for information.

There'll be a game night and potluck on **January 18** in Antelope. Call **Ann at 927-6038** for reservations.

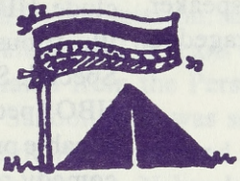
On **January 26th,** come to the Super Bowl party for games and pot luck snacks. Bring your own drinks. **** Open to all SIGS** Call Marge at 391-8320.**

FOUR WHEELERS

Have a four wheel drive? Want to travel?. Call **Cinder at 676-0641 or Julie at 361-9422.**

TOP 10

For information about the Top 10 SIG, call **Diane & Julie at 783-3578.**



RAINBOW CAMPERS

Here's the schedule for the 1997 summer of camping fun.

Apr 11-13- Coloma; Joyce & Barbara 929-3074

May 16 & 17 - Sandy Beach Delta Park; Kathleen 684-3741

June 20 & 21 - Casini Ranch; Casey & C.J. 366-7362

July 4-6 - Mt. Shasta, Scott Flats; Vicki 564-6907

August TBA - Wrights Beach; Carolyn & Nancy 381-8175

Sept 20-21 - Coloma; Linda & Denise 641-8565

All campers are welcome with tents, trucks, RVs, mattresses, etc.

MOMS AND KIDS

The Mom's Group meets for a potluck on the third Saturday of the month. We also get together for many other fun family activities during the month. And for that needed break from the kids, we feature a **"Mom's Night Out"** activity. Call **Kim,** the group facilitator at **364-8653** for information. For a newsletter and monthly activity calendar, call **Donna or Christina at 484-5696.**

WILDLIFE, BIRD WATCHING AND PHOTOGRAPHY HIKES

Call **Linda at 921-9052** to find out about the upcoming activities.

THE BOOK GROUP

The next meeting of the SACWN book group will be at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, **January 24** at the SACWN office. The book under discussion will be the *13th Juror* by John T. Lescroart. February's book will be *Talk Before Sleeping* by Elizabeth Bird. Call **Joy at 452-5513**.

SACWN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 1997
SACWN SALON
BIRDING IN MEXICO

The SACWN Salon is an intimate group of people at the SACWN office. The first hour is usually spent in greeting and networking with refreshments available. The second hour is a group discussion led by the speaker for the evening on the topic. Everyone is encouraged to share their experiences and adventures.

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1997
SACWN SALON
POETRY

A local lesbian "published" poet will lead the discussion and share her writings. Come prepared to read your work. There is a bit of poet in all of us. This Salon is for those who write, those who want to write, and those who are fascinated that there are women who write - poetry.

IN THE COMMUNITY

January 2 - LGS .. Lesbian Support Group in Auburn at the Dewitt Center from 7-9. For information, call 632-7080.

January 3-4 Gay and Lesbian Sierrans Women's Ski Weekend. Call Connie at 972-9230.

February 8 - Gay and Lesbain Sierrans - Sandhill Crane watching. Call Dell 455-4790.

February 6 - LGS .. Lesbian Support Group in Auburn at the Dewitt Center from 7-9. For information, call 632-7080.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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Win Tel Enterprises, PO Box 2353, Chico, CA 95827

****

Building Lasting Relationships

Couple's group emphasizing solutions and growth in establishing committed long-term relationships. Meets 2xs per month. Facilitator: Melinda Facelli MFCC #MFC30351 - **783-0563**

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1997
IN CONCERT WITH
SUZANNE WESTENHOEFER

Suzanne Westenhoefer has become one of the most recognized comedians around today. Her successes include HBO's Comic Relief VII, as well as her most illustrious moment to date - her own HBO Comedy Special. Suzanne is the first lesbian to ever have her own HBO Special, which was nominated for the highest honor in cable programming - the ACE Award. Suzanne's first comedy recording will be released shortly and will be available at the concert.

BE A SACWN SWEETHEART SPONSOR

Bringing a performer of the caliber of Suzanne to SACWN is an enormous undertaking and financial risk. To assist in keeping the concert ticket price as low as possible, SACWN is seeking Sweetheart Sponsorships. For $50, our Sweethearts will receive a ticket to the concert, Suzanne's newly-released CD and admission to a private post-show party to schmooze with the star.

See the order form on page for the purchase of tickets. Please note that this concert will be open to the entire community.

SUCCESSFUL SACWNITE

Jane Irwin was born and raised in Roachdale, Indiana, a town named after the Vice President of the B& O Railroad. She left home at 18 to attend De Paul University in Greencastle, Indiana.

"My mother died when I was 6 and my family never talked about her, because she died so young. I had to learn about her as an adult from my sister. At the time, I was angry to have been deserted by her. My grandmother raised me for 3 years and then my dad remarried and I lived with him and my stepmother."

At De Paul, Jane was a member of Delta Zeta. After two years, she wanted to move further from home and so she transferred to Michigan State and majored in economics. She was the first woman and the only woman in her class to graduate with a degree in Economics.

"At the time, every woman wanted to be a school teacher. I knew I didn't want that. My dad was a banker so I thought I'd follow him."

At Michigan State, Jane was strongly influenced by the Assistant Dean of Women. She encouraged Jane to go for a direct commission in the Air Force. "The dean had been an officer in the Navy and as I look back now, I realize she probably was a lesbian."

"I was 80 pounds at the time and you had to be 100 pounds to be accepted. So the night before I drank lots of water and ate bananas and drove the 40 miles to Indianapolis to be weighed not going to the bathroom all morning. The scale said 98 pounds, but the doctor put down 100 and Jane joined the Air Force as a 2nd lieutenant.

While waiting for the commission she spent the summer with a friend working at Grand View Raceway. She set the odds on the races and kept the records on the horses.

With the commission, she was off to Lackland AFB in Texas where she graduated from the Personnel Officer's School. She was sent to the Strategic Air Command headquarters in Omaha, Nebraska and her first assignment was to oversee 300 men. Directly reporting to her was a Master Sergeant with 32 years of experience. "I grew up fast in developing my management skills."

The Air Force brought her to California when she fell in love. She left the service and settled in Sacramento.

"In thinking back, if I had gone to IBM or Michigan Bell, both companies that were offering to hire me, I never would have matured professionally so quickly. The Air Force gave me the ability to develop skills that most women in my day and age never had the opportunity to acquire until late in life. I developed them in my 20's thanks to the Air Force.

"My first relationship was with a woman in the Air Force. I followed her to Sacramento and we opened up a bookkeeping and tax accounting service together." After a few years, Jane decided that she wanted to work for a larger organization and applied with the State of California. "I started as an administrative trainee at $450 month in 1962." She stayed for 17 years and during that period worked her way up to a Career Executive Appointment as State Director of Training at the State Personnel Board. She was the first woman to serve on staff there.

"I had several significant career contributions in those positions. I conceived and implemented a women in management effectiveness program that received nationwide recognition as one of the most unique management programs in the nation. I was selected to design a new personnel documentation system for the state's 160,000 employees. That system called PIMS is still in existence. With my retirement, I signed forms last week that were the same ones I designed 20 years ago."

"In 1976, I decided to leave state government and work as a consultant. I presented seminars and management programs throughout the United States, primarily to those working with credit unions. In 1981, I was contacted by the City and County of San Francisco and hired to install a payroll documentation system. It replaced the manual system of paying 20,000 employees.

"In 1988, I decided to finish my career working with the state. After eight years of service I am now retiring."

Jane's last position was as Assistant Director of Administration for the Department of Conservation. "I don't know what the future holds. For the first time in my life I have no immediate plans. I'm going to travel, play golf, go fishing and take fly fishing lessons. Then we'll see."

Jane was active with BACW in San Franscio and got involved in SACWN in 1987. She joined the board shortly after and has continued to serve as SACWN's financial coordinator since 1992.

"I didn't really accept that I was a lesbian until I worked in San Francisco. I had had a 14 year relationship but we never talked about it. In those days if you wanted to keep your job, you just didn't come out. I decided in San Francisco I could no longer keep it a secret from the people I cared about and who cared about me. In therapy I dealt with what the worst thing that could happen would be. I decided that if people were really friends, it wouldn't make a difference. I wrote 18 letters to the 18 most important people in my life and all of them are still very dear friends. Even those who were outspoken about the gay community became more accepting. I received beautiful letters from those friends."

Jane is currently single and looking forward to finding out through her retirement, what she will next do in her life. Reflecting back on her professional life, she shared several career highpoints.

"I had two ferrets, Fred and Fritz. I used them for the logo in my training program, "Ferreting Out Your Life." I fell in love with them in New Jersey and the only place they were illegal was in San Francisco. When I was recruited to work there, I knew I had to get the ordinance changed. I was working for the Mayor's office, so I couldn't be breaking the law. So I went to a Supervisor on the Board and asked her to sponsor legislation to make ferrets legal. Feinstein was Mayor and she approved so I then set out on a mission to make Fred and Fritz legal. There was more publicity than I ever dreamed on CBS, ABC and NBC. The night of the decision, the room was packed on another issue. The Fish and Game agent from the state claimed that making ferrets legal in San Francisco would result in uncontrolled reproduction of ferrets. After he finished his public testimony, I followed him and reminded him that only neutered male ferrets were allowed in the state of California and to the best of my knowledge, neutered male ferrets would not increase the population. Everyone knew I was in San Francisco and why!"

"Another time, while in San Francisco, my life was threatened and I had to wear a bullet proof vest for several weeks. There was a supervisor in charge of releasing paychecks that reported to me. We had a disagreement and he threatened me. He was reassigned to another job and went berserk. He threatened, sued through civil service and finally the union came to my rescue. It seems he was withholding paychecks from women and demanding sex. I got right in the middle of his scheme.

What is success to Jane as she ends one career and undertakes a new and different path? "Success to me is having the personal and professional skills and abilities to assist organizations and people in becoming more effective. And to me one of the most important ingredients for success is a good sense of humor. My father gave me that."

(This was a very special "Successful Sacwnite" interview for this editor. I was hearing the story of the life of a woman that I highly respected, a woman that has been a dedicated member of the SACWN Board and Steering Committee for more than 8 years. We were meeting in her office on the 25th floor of a downtown high-rise office building. The view out the window was incredible. But the view that Jane shared of her life was also pretty incredible. It was an honor to hear her story and I knew you'd want to share the full view that I saw that day.)

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Comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer
Appearing in Concert

Friday, February 14, 1997
Crest Theater

1013 K Street, Sacramento

8 p.m.

TICKETS: $15 for SACWN Members

$20 for non-members and at the door.

Westenhoefer in Concert

February 14, 1997

FOR MAIL ORDER,
SEND CHECK WITH SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE TO:
SACWN,
3031 F Street, Suite 201
Sacramento, CA 95816

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

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Number of Tickets:

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SACWN Sweetheart Sponsorship @ $50 ____

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Be a SACWN Sweetheart Sponsor.

For $50, you'll receive a concert ticket, Suzanne's newly-released CD, and a ticket to the private post show party with Suzanne.
For more information, call SACWN at 451-8034.

General admission seating, doors open at 7 p.m.
This concert is open to the entire community.

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THE FORMS

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CATEGORIES	RATES
Regular Subscriber	$36/year
Two-in-One Household	$60/year
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WAIVER - I AM AWARE THAT CERTAIN RISKS OR INJURIES COULD OCCUR ARISING FROM MY PARTICIPATION IN SACWN, INC. EVENTS AND/OR SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS. IN CONSIDERATION OF THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH EVENTS, SOME OF WHICH MAY INVOLVE STRENUOUS ACTIVITY (I.E. HIKING, GOLFING, SKIING, CYCLING, ETC.), I HEREBY ASSUME ALL RISKS AND WILL HOLD SACWN, INC. AND ITS MEMBERS HARMLESS FROM ALL LIABILITY WHICH MAY ARISE IN CONNECTION WITH THESE ACTIVITIES.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

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* SENIORS -Age 65+ on Limited Income; STUDENTS - Students 21+ on Limited Income; DISABLED - Disabled Citizens on Limited Income.

**SUSTAINING - Contributing a little extra to help supplement others (Seniors, Students, Disabled) on limited income.

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SACWN SALON
BIRDING IN MEXICO

JANUARY 19, 1997

Registration Form

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CITY _____ STATE ____ ZIP ____

PHONE _____

Tickets:		#
Members:	$ 5	_____
Non-members	$10	_____
At the Door	$10	

Total Enclosed: _____

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3031 F Street, Suite 201
Sacramento, CA 95816

Enclose a self addressed, stamped envelope and tickets will be sent in the return mail. Otherwise tickets will be held at the door.

For information, **call 451-8034.**

This event is for women over 21 only.

SACWN

SACRAMENTO AREA CAREER WOMEN'S NETWORK INC.

3031 F STREET, SUITE 201
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816

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